

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00960 01 OF 02 050947Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 064074

O 050840Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3032

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOGADISCIO 0960

EXDIS

DEPT ALSO PASS ACTION SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, US, SO

SUBJECT: SENATOR BARTLETT AND GROUP AT BERBERA

REF: A. MOGADISCIO 952 B. MOGADISCIO 0953

1. SENATOR BARTLETT AND GROUP VISITED BERBERA JULY 4 AS SCHEDULED. GROUP ARRIVED BERBERA APPROXIMATELY 0925 LOCAL AND SPENT ALMOST FIVE HOURS ON GROUND. DEPARTED BERBERA AT 1500 HRS AND RETURNED TO MOGADISCIO EVENING OF JULY 4 VIA BURAO, WHERE THEY VISITED REFUGEE CAMP.

2. ACCOMPANYING SENATOR BARTLETT AND HIS THIRTEEN MAN GROUP WAS SOMALI ESCORT CREW HEADED BY SRC MEMBER AND NSS CHIEF AHMED SULEIMAN. GROUP OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ALSO ACCOMPANIED SENATOR, INCLUDING TANNER (NY TIMES), DODER (WASHINGTON POST), MULLEN (US NEWS WORLD REPORT), GRIGGS (TIME). ABC NEWSMAN BRANNIGAN WAS DENIED ADMISSION TO PARTY ON GROUNDS THAT HE HAD ALREADY VIEWED BERBERA INSTALLATIONS JUNE 28.

3. FOLLOWING IS LIST OF INSTALLATIONS SENATOR AND GROUP INSPECTED - IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER - WITH FEW GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOGADI 00960 01 OF 02 050947Z

A. POL STORAGE SITE: SENATOR AND GROUP LANDED BY HELICOPTER

NEAR THIS POINT. INSPECTED STORAGE THANKS AND DISCUSSED POL  
INSTALLATION'S FUNCTION, CAPACITY, FUEL-MIX, ETC. WITH  
MANAGER. IDENTIFIED PIPE LINES (I.E., TO MISSILE HANDLING  
FACILITY, TO NEW AIRFIELD, ETC.).

B. SOVIET BARRACKS AND TRAILER AREA: INSPECTED TRAILERS  
AND OHS BARRACKS. RUSSIAN-SPEAKING SPECIALIST WITH GROUP  
ENTERED ONE TRAILER AND ENCOUNTERED TOWEL-WARAPPED RUSSIAN  
EMERGING FROM SHOWER. (SAME SPECIALIST ALSO ENCOUNTERED IN  
SAME AREA SOVIET DRIVER OF FUEL TRUCK, WHO WAS DUMBSTRUCK  
WHEN ASKED - IN RUSSIAN - WHAT HE WAS DOING IN BERBERA.)  
SULEIMAN TOLD GROUP THAT TRAILERS WERE OCCUPIED BY SOVIETS  
BUT THAT BARRACKS BUILDINGS FOR SOMALIS AS WELL. RUSSIAN  
NEWSPAPERS EVIDENT IN BARRACKS BUILDINGS AND TRAILERS.

C. PORT AREA: PROCEEDED TO PORT AREA, WHERE INSPECTED FEW  
WAREHOUSES ON DOCKS. MOVED TO MOLE, WHERE GANGWAY ENTRANCE  
TO SOVIET BARRACKS SHIP  
WAS BLOCKED BY SOVIET MARINE. SHIP  
WAS FLYING SOVIET FLAG AND SOMALI IN-PORT ENSIGN AS WELL.  
SULEIMAN IDENTIFIED SHIP AS SOVIET SHIP AND SAID HE COULD  
NOT RPT NOT GIVE PERMISSION TO BOARD, SINCE IT WAS SOVIET VESSEL.

D. RADIO RECEIVING STATION: FROM PORT AREA, GROUP PROCEEDED  
BY VEHICLE TO RECEIVER STATION. AT SITE, US COMMUNICATIONS  
SPECIALIST LEFT VEHICLE AND ATTEMPTED ENTER AREA. ROUTE  
WAS BLOCKED BY SOMALI MILITARY GUARD WITH AUTOMATIC RIFLE.  
SULEIMAN TOLD GROUP THAT HE COULD NOT RPT NOT GIVE PERMISSION  
TO ENTER BUILDING, WHICH WAS SOVIET RECEIVING STATION.  
AMERICAN JOURNALISTS WHO WERE LISTENING TOLD SULEIMAN THAT  
THIS CONTRADICTED STATEMENTS OF PRESIDENT, WHO HAD TOLD  
THEM THAT NO RPT NO INSTALLATIONS UNDER SOVIET CONTROL.  
SULEIMAN STUCK TO HIS STATEMENT AND SAID HE HAD NO RPT NO  
AUTHORITY TO PERMIT ENTRY. FROM THIS POINT ON, NO RPT NO  
PHOTOGRAPHS WERE PERMITTED BY SOMALI OFFICIALS DURING  
REMAINDER OF TOUR.

3. TRANSMITTER SITE: GROUP THEN PROCEEDED BACK THROUGH  
CITY TO TRANSMITTER SITE. GROUP OF SOMALI SOLDIERS DEPLOYED  
AROUND STATION AS GROUP APPROACHED. AGAIN, SULEIMAN TOLD  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOGADI 00960 01 OF 02 050947Z

SENATOR THAT THIS WAS SOVIET TRANSMITTER SITE AND HE COULD  
NOT RPT NOT AUTHORIZE ENTRY. COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST DID  
HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO SCRUTINIZE SURROUNDING ANTENNAS CLOSELY  
AND WAS ASTONISHED BY SIZE AND CONFIGURATION OF RHOMBIC  
ANTENNAS.

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED SECDEF.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00960 02 OF 02 050949Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 064075

O 050840Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3033

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MOGADISCIO 0960

EXDIS

DEPT ALSO PASS ACTION SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

F. MISSILE HANDLING FACILITY: ENTIRE GROUP WAS NOT RPT NOT PERMITTED TO ENTER MISSILE HANDLING AND STORAGE FACILITY. INSTEAD, SULEIMAN TOOK SENATOR BARTLETT AND FOUR MEMBERS OF GROUP INTO FACILITY. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY SOMALI NAVAL OFFICERS, INCLUDING COMMANDING OFFICER OF FACILITY, WHO COULD NOT RPT NOT ANSWER QUESTIONS PUT TO HIM BY GROUP. GROUP ENTERED HIGH BAY CHECK OUT BUILDING, BUNKERS, ETC. NEAR HIGH BAY CHECK OUT AREA, GROUP IDENTIFIED STYX MISSILE CRATE. SULEIMAN CONFIRMED FOR GROUP THAT SOMALI NAVY HAD STYX MISSILES, WHICH WAS CLOSELY GUARDED STATE SECRET, BUT NOT YET HAVE SUPPORTING VESSELS. ACCORDING TO TECHNICIANS IN SENATOR BARTLETT'S GROUP, HIGH BAY CHECK OUT AREA CAPABLE OF HANDLING ANY MISSILE IN SOVIET INVENTORY AND OF SIZE FAR IN EXCESS OF STYX MISSILE REQUIREMENTS. (FYI: AMERICAN JOURNALISTS WAITING OUTSIDE HEARD OF STYX MISSILE CRATE'S PRESENCE AND WILL NO DOUBT REPORT IT. END FYI)

G. NEW AIRFIELD: SENATOR AND PARTY THEN PROCEEDED BY VEHICLE TO NEW AIRFIELD LOCATED APPROXIMATELY FOUR KILOMETERS FROM MISSILE FACILITY. SOVIET CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT APPARENT. ALSO INSPECTED FEW BUILDINGS IN AREA.

4. SENATOR AND GROUP DEPARTED BERBERA AT APPROXIMATELY 1500 HRS LOCAL AND PROCEEDED TO BURAO, WHERE THEY INSPECTED SOMALI REFUGEE CAMP. RETURNED TO MOGADISCIO AT APPROXIMATELY 2000 HRS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOGADI 00960 02 OF 02 050949Z

5. COMMENT: ENATOR AND PARTY BELIEVE VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL IN ALL RESPECTS. THEY WERE STRUCK BY VISIBLE CHANGE IN ATTITUDE OF ACCOMPANYING SRC OFFICER SULEIMAN, WHO HAD NOT RPT NOT SEEN BERBERA FOR THREE YEARS. AT ONSET OF BERBERA TRIP, SULEIMAN WAS SOMEWHAT ARROGANT BUT AS EVENTS UNFOLDED, SENATOR DETECTED CHANGE IN HIS MOOD AS HE CONCEDED THAT FACILITIES EXISTED AT BERBERA TO WHICH HE HAD NO RPT NO ACCESS. BERBERA INSPECTION MAY HAVE BEEN EDUCATION FOR SULEIMAN. AT END OF EXCURSION, SENATOR AND SULEIMAN ON BEST OF TERMS. POINT WORTH MAKING IS THAT SULEIMAN MAY HAVE BEEN SIAD'S CHOICE BECUASE HE IS ONE OF FEW PEOPLE WHO CAN UNLOCK ALL DOORS ON SIAD'S BEHALF IN SOMALIA.  
HAMRICK

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, BERBERA, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MOGADI00960  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750233-0066  
**From:** MOGADISCIO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750783/aaaacvnx.tel  
**Line Count:** 188  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 MOGADISCIO 952, 75 MOGADISCIO 0953  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 AUG 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SENATOR BARTLETT AND GROUP AT BERBERA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, US, SO, UR, (BARTLETT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006